

For immediate release:

Front Gallery & Workspace:

Young Frankensteins, curated by Peter Schenck

February 24 – April 3, 2016

Opening Reception: Wednesday, February 24th 6 – 8p.m.

lesley heller
workspace

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Hannah Barrett, Jaqueline Cedar, Austin Eddy, Sarah Faux, Nicasio Fernandez, Annie Hémond Hotte
Shara Hughes, David Humphrey, Joakim Ojanen, Jeremy Roby, Peter Schenck, Ivanco Talevski, Alexi Worth



Hannah Barrett
Frog, 2013
Oil on canvas
60 by 40 inches

"I live because this poor half-crazed genius, has given me life. He alone held an image of me as something beautiful [...]"

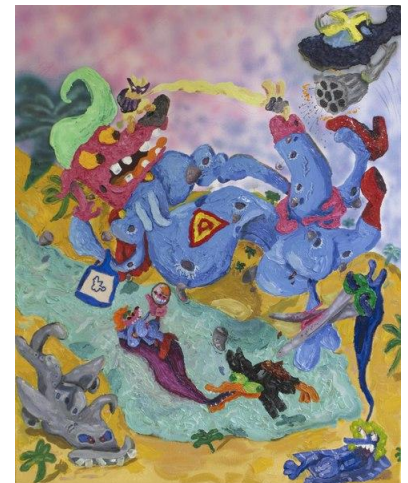
so says the Monster in Mel Brook's film *Young Frankenstein*.

Victor Frankenstein built his monster piece by piece, breathing life into his creation through the use of science, ambition, and his own obsessive curiosity. Frankenstein furiously experimented with all manners of modern scientific techniques until he had achieved his goal: to create something living from the dead.

Much like Dr. Frankenstein, the artists assembled in *Young Frankensteins* implement off-kilter, unconventional, aesthetic techniques in order to build and sustain their creatures within a material reality. Beyond the walls of their own individual studio laboratories is a shared sense of urgency to paint and sculpt a human form for the 21st century.

Taking up the torch from influential artists like Louise Bourgeois, Robert Crumb, Philip Guston, Alice Neel, and Peter Saul, the artists in this exhibition work madly to devise idiosyncratic and imaginative new anatomies and visual languages. They flatten, stretch, wind and obscure bodies, building golems which command our attention over the noise of today's image-saturated culture.

Young Frankensteins offers a fresh platform for reflecting on the human condition. The figures that inhabit this collection of work have the strength required to battle life's ugliness, and the tenacity to reveal its beauty. While they may not look pretty—or even human—their suffering and strangeness deeply resonates with what continues to perplex and amaze us about our own behaviors and existence.



Nicasio Fernandez
Up Up and to the Grocery Store, 2013
Acrylic, oil on canvas
42 x 34 inches

"Life, although it may only be an accumulation of anguish, is dear to me, and I will defend it."

Mary Shelley's Monster, *Frankenstein*

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For further information or to request images, email info@lesleyheller.com